SFA-FMS Feeder System Interfacing

Financial Management Transformation IPT
- FMS Implementation Team

20 February 2001

- Low level discussions between SFA-CFO and OCFO have taken place to discuss the following interface requirements for SFA-FMS Phase III:
  - SFA has offered to utilize existing GAPS programs and formats to minimize the amount of work required to modify/create these interfaces.
  - OCFO has agreed to work with SFA to establish the required interfaces for FMS Phase III.
  - OCFO is now investigating the level of effort required to modify the GAPS system for these interfaces. Once this is complete, discussions will be held to draft a final interfacing agreement between SFA-CFO and OCFO.

FMS Phase III - OCFO Interfacing Requirements

- In order for FMS Phase III to go live with its full functionality, four items must be coordinated with ED OCFO:

  1. Re-routing most feeder system interface files through SFA-FMS. *(OCFO has indicated that this interface will require minimal effort and can be done by August 1, 2001.)*

  2. The creation of interfaces to send LEAPP/SLEAPP obligations from FMS to GAPS and to send LEAPP/SLEAPP drawdown, return, and other information from GAPS to FMS. *(OCFO has indicated that the FMS to GAPS interface can be completed in 2002 and that the GAPS to FMS interface may be able to be completed by August 1, 2001. OCFO is investigating the level of effort required to complete these interfaces. SFA can perform a manual workaround for the FMS to GAPS LEAPP/SLEAPP interface in 2001.)*

FMS Phase III - OCFO Interfacing Requirements

- In order for FMS Phase III to go live with its full functionality, four items must be coordinated with ED OCFO:

  3. The creation of an interface to send Campus Based drawdown, return, and other information from GAPS to FMS. *(OCFO has indicated that this interface may require minimal effort and may be able to be completed by August 1, 2001. OCFO is investigating the level of effort required to complete this interface.)*

  4. The creation of an interface to send SFA (PELL, Direct Loan, LEAPP/SLEAPP, Campus Based) treasury confirmations from GAPS to FMS. *(OCFO has indicated that this interface may be able to be completed by August 1, 2001. OCFO is investigating the level of effort required to complete this interface.)*

FMS Phase III
File Format Issue

- Annual GAPS interface file changes were delivered late to SFA's Feeder Systems this year. (Output file definitions are still being drafted.) Direct Loan staff stated that they would not be able to make modifications to their system according to OCFO's implementation schedule. Pell and Campus Based Systems staff have indicated that they can make the required changes. Given the Direct Loan impasse, three options exist for moving forward:
    - 1 – Modify FMS to translate the old Direct Loan files to the new GAPS format.
    - 2 – Utilize the two months of cushion in OCFO's schedule to enable all of SFA's Feeder systems to make modifications according to the new GAPS requirements.
    - 3 – Convince GAPS to make additional modifications to their system such that they can continue to use the old file formats.

- Option 1 – Modify FMS to translate the old Direct Loan files to the new GAPS format.

- Pros
  - Takes pressure off of Direct Loan development efforts.

- Cons
  - Additional risk for FMS.
  - Greater development effort required to do this work in FMS than in the Direct Loan systems.
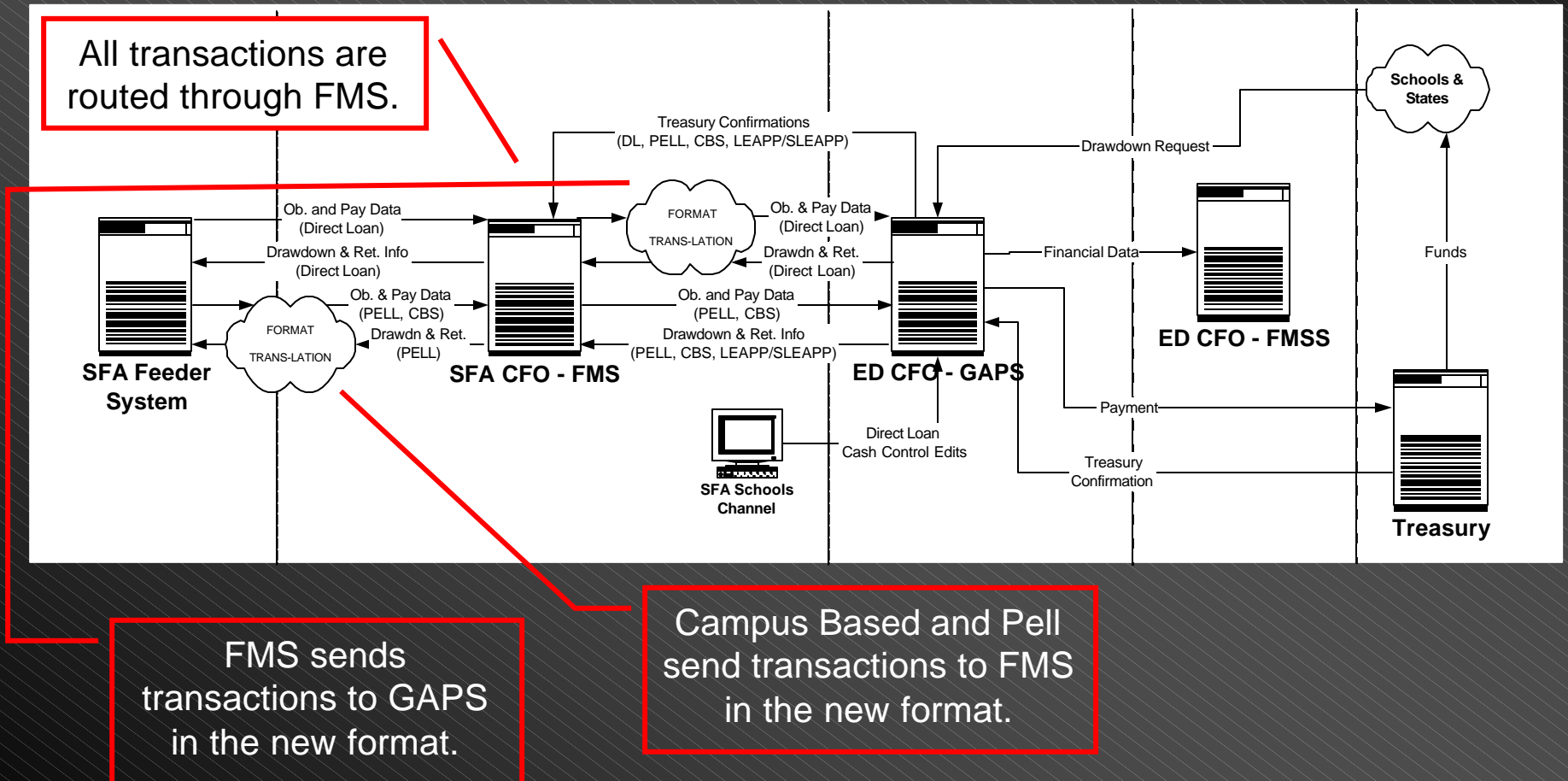
- Risks
  - No fallback procedure exists for this scenario. If FMS is not able to go live with the Direct Loan format translation on August 1, either schools will not be able to drawdown their Direct Loan funds or OCFO will have to delay their GAPS and FMSS implementation.

All transactions are routed through FMS.

Treasury Confirmations (DL, PELL, CBS, LEAPP/SLEAPP)

Drawdown Request

Schools & States

FORMAT TRANS-LATION

Ob. and Pay Data (Direct Loan)

Ob. & Pay Data (Direct Loan)

Drawdown & Ret. Info (Direct Loan)

Drawdn & Ret. (Direct Loan)

Financial Data

Funds

Ob. & Pay Data (PELL, CBS)

Ob. and Pay Data (PELL, CBS)

FORMAT TRANS-LATION

Drawdn & Ret. (PELL)

Drawdown & Ret. Info (PELL, CBS, LEAPP/SLEAPP)

ED CFO - FMSS

SFA Feeder System

SFA CFO - FMS

ED CFO - GAPS

Direct Loan Cash Control Edits

Payment

SFA Schools Channel

Treasury Confirmation

Treasury

FMS sends transactions to GAPS in the new format.

Campus Based and Pell send transactions to FMS in the new format.

- Option 2 – Utilize OCFO's schedule cushion to enable all SFA Feeders to make modifications for GAPS new formats.

- Pros
  - Lower level of development required from the FMS team.
  - The FMS schedule has no impact on OCFO's schedule.

- Cons
  - Direct Loan may still have difficulty completing this development effort.
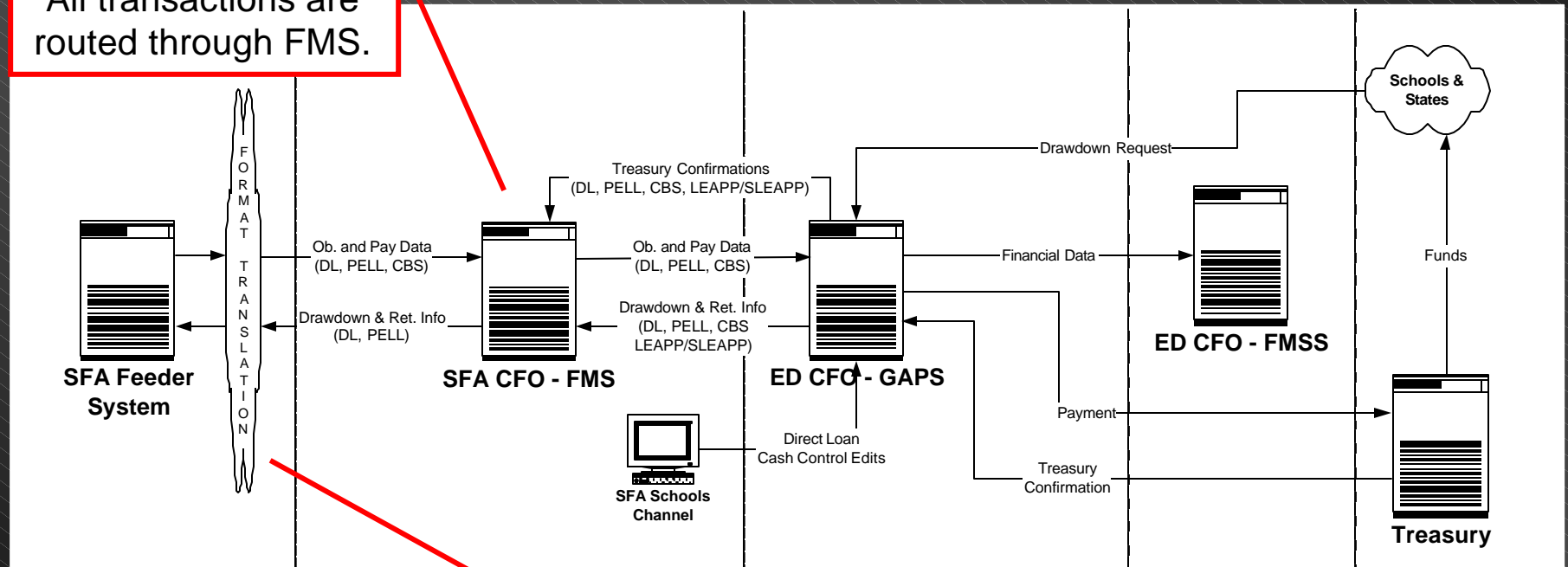
- Risks
  - If Direct Loan is not able to go live with the format translation on August 1, either schools will not be able to drawdown their Direct Loan funds or OCFO will have to delay their GAPS and FMSS implementation.

- Option 3 – Convince GAPS to make additional modifications to their system and can continue to use the old file formats.

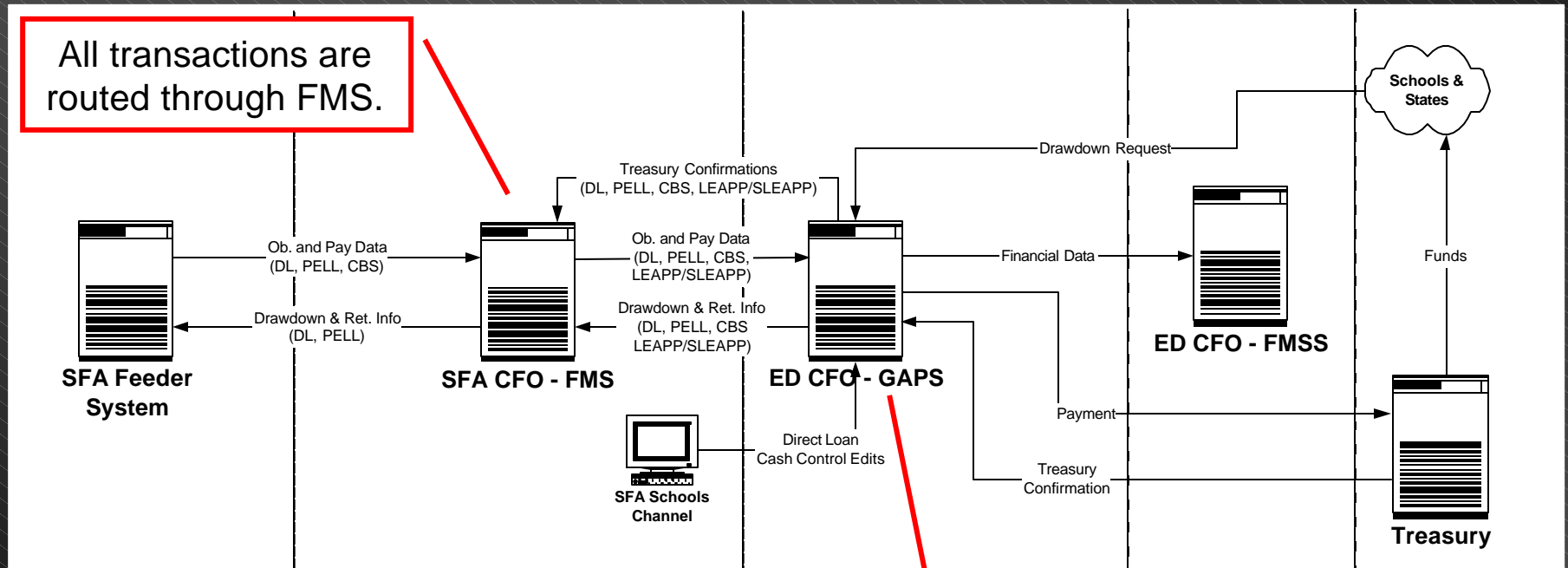| Pros	Cons
• Takes pressure off of Direct Loan and FMS development efforts.	• Could stress the relationship between OCFO and SFA. • Additional work required of GAPS, who is struggling to meet OCFO's Aug. 1 deadline.

- Risks

  - Asking OCFO to perform this work would create additional work for the GAPS development staff, who is struggling to meet the August 1 deadline for OCFO-FMSS. This could stress the current relationship between OCFO and SFA-CFO.

All transactions are routed through FMS.

Schools & States

Treasury Confirmations
(DL, PELL, CBS, LEAPP/SLEAPP)

Drawdown Request

Ob. and Pay Data
(DL, PELL, CBS)

Ob. and Pay Data
(DL, PELL, CBS, LEAPP/SLEAPP)

Financial Data

Funds

Drawdown & Ret. Info
(DL, PELL)

Drawdown & Ret. Info
(DL, PELL, CBS LEAPP/SLEAPP)

ED CFO - FMSS

SFA Feeder System

SFA CFO - FMS

ED CFO - GAPS

Direct Loan Cash Control Edits

Payment

Treasury Confirmation

SFA Schools Channel

Treasury

GAPS runs an internal routine to calculate the information requested in the new file formats.

Issues Stalling FMS Phase III

- In order to proceed with the Direct Loan portion of FMS Phase III, a decision must be made regarding the preceding interface options.

- A firm and final agreement is needed between OCFO and SFA-CFO regarding Phase III interfacing. With out these interfaces, FMS Phase III will not be fully functional.

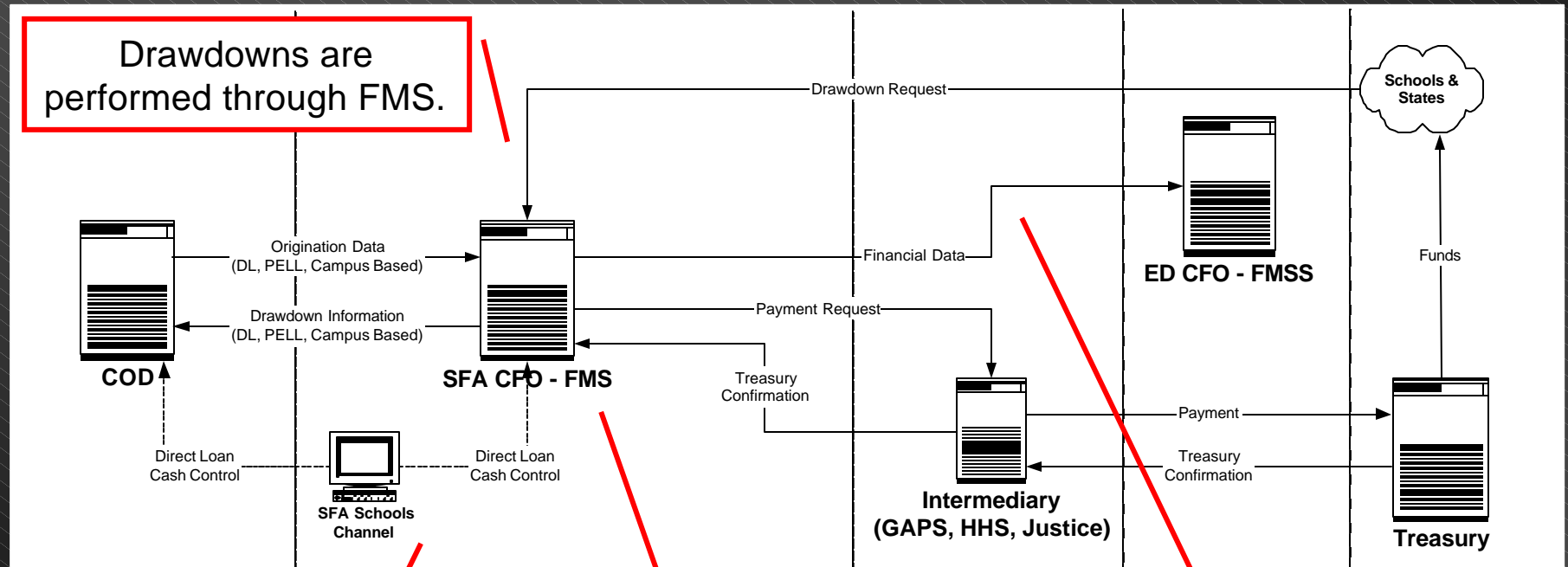- Discussions between SFA-CFO and OCFO will need to take place to discuss the following interface requirements for SFA-FMS Phase IV:

  - SFA-FMS will provide all of SFA's financial information to ED-FMSS.

  - SFA Funds Control and Direct Loan Cash Control functionality will move to the SFA-FMS system.

  - SFA Drawdown and Refund Requests will be processed by the SFA-FMS system.

  - SFA will use GAPS, or another system, as an intermediary for payment transactions going to Treasury.

February 2002 Vision

Drawdowns are performed through FMS.

Drawdown Request

Schools & States

ED CFO - FMSS

Funds

Origination Data
(DL, PELL, Campus Based)

Financial Data

Drawdown Information
(DL, PELL, Campus Based)

Payment Request

COD

SFA CFO - FMS

Treasury Confirmation

Direct Loan Cash Control

Direct Loan Cash Control

Payment

Treasury Confirmation

SFA Schools Channel

Intermediary (GAPS, HHS, Justice)

Treasury

Direct Loan cash control is performed in COD or FMS.
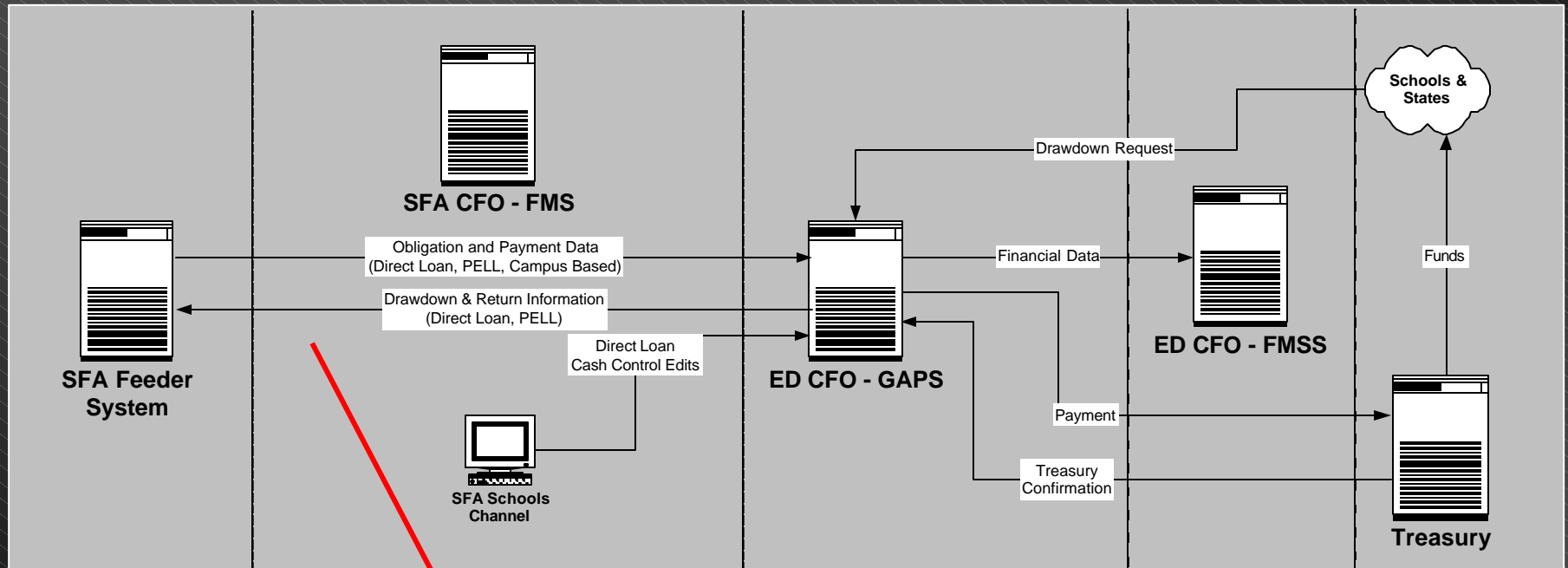
FMS performs all funds control for SFA programs.

FMS sends all SFA financial data to FMSS.

Reference – FMS Current State

SFA CFO - FMS

SFA Feeder System

Obligation and Payment Data
(Direct Loan, PELL, Campus Based)

Drawdown & Return Information
(Direct Loan, PELL)

Direct Loan
Cash Control Edits

SFA Schools Channel

Drawdown Request

ED CFO - GAPS

Financial Data

Payment

Treasury Confirmation

ED CFO - FMSS

Schools & States

Funds

Treasury

SFA feeder systems send transactions directly to GAPS.

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